

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cvetkovic et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,236,844) (hereinafter "Cvetkovic '844").

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cvetkovic et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,141,536) (hereinafter "Cvetkovic '536").

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Claims 1-4 have been amended to differently describe embodiments of the disclosure of the instant application's specification. Accordingly, claims 1-4 remain pending for consideration.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cvetkovic '844. Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cvetkovic '536. Claims 1-4 have been amended to differently describe embodiments of the disclosure of the instant application's specification. To the extent that these rejections might be deemed to apply to the claims as newly-amended, they are respectfully traversed as follows.

Applicant has amended independent claim 1, for example, to recite a receiver combination that includes at least two antennas for receiving broadcast wave signals each carrying thereon an information signal; signal amplifiers for respectively amplifying the broadcast wave signals that have been respectively received by said at least two antennas; a

signal superposing part for superposing the amplified signals that have been amplified by said signal amplifiers to produce an output signal; a demodulating/reproducing part for demodulating the output signal from said signal superposing part and for reproducing the information signals included in said output signal, said demodulating/reproducing part being adapted to detect qualities of the respective ones of the reproduced information signals so as to produce a deterioration signal showing deterioration in quality of either one of the reproduced information signals; and a control part for performing a control operation to reduce a number of broadcast wave signals in said output signal in response to said deterioration signal.

In other words, Applicant respectfully submits that the receiver combination according to embodiments of the disclosure of the instant application makes a determination of deterioration in quality of a resultant information signal obtained from the demodulating/reproducing part, thereby producing a deterioration detection signal. The number of amplified broadcast wave signals in a single output signal from the signal amplifiers is reduced in response to the deterioration signal.

Applicant respectfully submits that the arrangements of the instant application's disclosure enable the receiver to be capable of addressing various types of deterioration occurring in the received broadcast wave signal.

On the other hand, Cvetkovic '844 discloses a proportional diversity radio system for mobile vehicles which includes a plurality of antennas 12 and 13. Broadcast wave signals are received by the antennas 12 and 13 and supplied to tuners 15 and 16. As stated at col. 2, lines 58-60 of Cvetkovic '844, the tuners 15 and 16 produce respective signal strength signals SS1 and SS2 which are sent to a mix control circuit 22. As seen from Fig. 3 or 4 of Cvetkovic '844, the

mix control circuit 22 includes summers 30 and 31 for combining the signals from the tuners and the signals SS1 and SS2 so that the mix control circuit 22 produces gain control outputs G_1 and G_2 which in turn control gains of amplifiers 18 and 19 causing a mixed tuner output signal. Applicant respectfully submits that it is apparent that the mixing rate of the two tuner output in Cvetkovic '844 is controlled in accordance with the signal strength signals SS1 and SS2 produced by the tuners. Cvetkovic '536 also has a similar two tuner output arrangement.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that the receiver arrangements of embodiments of the instant application's disclosure are adapted to perform a control operation to reduce the number of broadcast wave signals which are contained in the output signal from the amplifier part. This control operation is performed in response to a determination result made with respect to the demodulated and reproduced information signals originally contained in the broadcast wave signals. Such an arrangement is neither shown, nor even suggested by either of the applied Cvetkovic '844 and Cvetkovic '536 references.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn because neither of the applied Cvetkovic '844 and Cvetkovic '536 references, taken separately, teach or suggest each feature of independent claims 1-4, as amended. As pointed out in MPEP § 2131, "[t]o anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim." Thus, "[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. Of California, 2 USPQ 2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)."

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution. A favorable action is awaited.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573.


This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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